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## Reading Is Fundamental Announces Honorees of STEM+Arts Competition

### Sponsored by Nestlé USA, Honorees to Receive \$1,250 in Free Books Each

WASHINGTON, April 4, 2013 – Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) announced four awardees in its FULL STEAM AHEAD WITH BOOKS art competition, encouraging students in RIF programs to express how books have fueled their passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics – or STEAM subjects. Visit RIF’s Flickr gallery of the winners: [http://www.flickr.com/photos/rif\\_web/sets/72157633108893171/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/rif_web/sets/72157633108893171/)

“Somewhere along the path of growing up, we’re led to believe that science and creativity are separate endeavors. The pieces of art these children created prove otherwise.” said RIF’s President and CEO Carol H. Rasco. “With the support of our longtime partners at Nestlé, we are delighted to be encouraging children to explore STEM subjects through the arts.”

The competition was sponsored by Nestlé USA and honorees were judged by a panel of judges, including art educators, and were awarded in three categories, with two honorees in one category:

- K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade individual: Maria Grabowska, at P.S. 175Q in New York City
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade group: Mrs. Knapp’s Art and Science Class at Tenth Street Elementary in Anderson, Ind.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade individual (two honorees): Andrea Alcantar, at Pleasant Grove Elementary in Burlington, N.C.; Edon Haxhaj, at P.S. 175Q in New York City

The schools these children attend will receive \$1,250 worth of books, plus RIF’s STEAM-themed Multicultural Book Collection (<http://www.rif.org/mbc>). The competition is part of RIF’s multi-year early childhood literacy campaign to inspire the next-generation of innovators through an approach integrating the arts with STEM learning. Learn more about the initiative at: <http://www.rif.org/us/about/press/Early-Childhood-Literacy-Initiative-Launches-Targeting-Next-Generation-Innovation-with-STEM-Arts.htm>.

#### About Nestlé USA

Named one of “The World’s Most Admired Food Companies” in Fortune magazine for sixteen consecutive years, Nestlé provides quality brands and products that bring flavor to life every day. From nutritious meals with LEAN CUISINE® to baking traditions with NESTLÉ® TOLL HOUSE®, Nestlé USA makes delicious, convenient, and nutritious food and beverage products that make good living possible. That’s what “Nestlé. Good Food, Good Life” is all about. Nestlé USA, with 2012 sales of \$10 billion, is part of Nestlé S.A. in Vevey, Switzerland — the world’s largest food company with a commitment to Nutrition, Health & Wellness — with 2012 sales of \$98 billion. For product news and information, visit [Nestleusa.com](http://Nestleusa.com) or [Facebook.com/NestleUSA](http://Facebook.com/NestleUSA).

#### About Reading Is Fundamental (RIF)

Reading Is Fundamental delivers free books and literacy resources to children and families in underserved communities in the United States. By giving children the opportunity to own a book, RIF inspires them to become lifelong readers and achieve their full potential. As the nation’s largest children’s literacy nonprofit, RIF has placed 400 million books in the hands of more than 37 million children since it was established in 1966. Learn more and help provide books to kids who need them most, visit [RIF.org](http://RIF.org).

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